

HANDSWORTH
URBAN DISTRICT.

REPORT

ON THE

Sanitary Condition of the District

FOR THE

Year ending December 31st, 1904,

BY

JAMES RICHMOND,

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Member of the Sanitary Institute,

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BIRMINGHAM :

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Handsworth Urban District.



TO THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HANDSWORTH,
IN THE COUNTY OF STAFFORD.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you herewith my
Annual Report on the Sanitary Condition of
your District during the year 1904.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES RICHMOND.

THE COUNCIL HOUSE,
HANDSWORTH,

August, 1905.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor ELI COCKIN, Chairman.

- „ SAMUEL ADKINS.
- „ GEORGE BAINES.
- „ W. C. CHANNING.
- „ A. T. HOLDSWORTH, M.D.
- „ ALFRED SANDERS.
- „ HENRY SHILLITO, M.B.
- „ E. J. TREVITT.

ANNUAL REPORT

*of the Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Council
of Handsworth, Staffordshire, for the year 1904.*

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE DISTRICT.

Handsworth has an area of 3,665 acres according to the Ordnance Survey, quoted in the 1901 Census returns, and occupies the extreme S.E. corner of the County of Stafford, being at the County Boundary (E. & S.E.) in close relation with Aston Manor and Birmingham. On the N. & W. it is bounded by the sparsely inhabited parts of the Perry Barr Urban District and of the County Borough of West Bromwich, whilst on the S. it is continuous with the Borough of Smethwick. The surface is undulating, and its height above the sea level varies from 570 to 300 feet. On the N. and E. the natural drainage is towards the River Tame, and on the S. and W. towards the tributary Hockley Brook. The sub-soil is mainly sand and gravel, with, here and there, limited deposits of clay. The district lies on the "New Red Sandstone" formation.

VITAL STATISTICS.

I.—POPULATION.

The population at the middle of the year is estimated to have been 61,500, giving a density of population of 16·8 persons per acre. The rateable value in 1904 was, for houses, full rateable value, £265,220 18s. ; three-fourths rateable value, £7,448 8s. 9d. ; and for land, £2,837 3s. 3d.

At the Census of 1901 Handsworth contained 11,295 families, 11,074 inhabited houses, 127 uninhabited houses in occupation, 497 uninhabited houses not in occupation,

252 houses in process of erection, 1,474 tenements of less than five rooms, 52,921 persons, 23,985 male and 28,936 female.

The rapidity with which the District has grown is shown by the following figures :—

Census 1871 ...	Pop. 14,947 ...	Houses 2,790 ...	Persons per house 5·36
„ 1881 ...	„ 22,896 ...	„ 4,801 ...	„ „ 4·77
„ 1891 ...	„ 32,756 ...	„ 6,771 ...	„ „ 4·837
„ 1901 ...	„ 52,921 ...	„ 11,060 ...	„ „ 4·785
Esti- mated 1903 ...	„ 59,000 ...	„ 12,512 ...	... ..
„ 1904 ...	„ 61,500 ...	„ 12,955 ...	... ..

The uninhabited houses, mostly new or incompleated, numbered 996, divided among the Wards as shown below.

Handsworth is now numbered by the Registrar General as one of the seventy-six great towns.

The population in the several wards, calculated from the population per house found at the Census of 1901, was as follows at the middle of 1904 :—

Ward.	Persons.	Inhabited Houses.	Void Houses.
Birchfield	12,886	2,713	266
Heathfield	9,720	2,054	86
Murdock	11,996	2,508	231
Sandwell	15,368	3,250	241
Soho	11,530	2,430	172
Handsworth	61,500	12,955	996

In Murdock Ward the dwellings of the working class preponderate, and many of the inhabitants work in Smethwick.

There are few manufactories in Handsworth. The persons employed at the largest factory (Kynoch's) live

mainly in Aston. There is scarcely any communication between Smethwick and Handsworth among the population of the school age, whilst between Birmingham, Aston, and Handsworth the circulation of this population is active and constant. The result is seen in the agreement of the notifications of Infectious disease in Handsworth with those of Birmingham and Aston, whilst there is no apparent relation in this respect between Smethwick and Handsworth.

II.—BIRTHS.

One thousand four hundred and thirty-six births were registered in the district during the year; of these 755 were males and 681 females. The birth-rate per thousand of population was 23·4. In 1903 the birth-rate was 24·6. The average of the years 1891-1900 was 27·6. The birth-rate in England and Wales in 1904 was 27·9.

The births were distributed as follows:—Birchfield Ward 336, Heathfield Ward 153, Murdock Ward 348, Sandwell Ward 387, Soho Ward 212. The birth-rates per thousand of the estimated population of the several wards were, therefore—Birchfield Ward 26·07, Heathfield Ward 15·8, Murdock Ward 29·0, Sandwell Ward 25·2, Soho Ward 18·3. The rates in 1903 were 25·4, 15·6, 30·6, 30·5, and 18·4 respectively.

III.—DEATHS.

Seven hundred and fifty-four deaths of residents occurred during the year. Of these 670 were registered in the district, 30 occurred in the West Bromwich Union Workhouse, and 13 in the County Lunatic Asylum. Thirty-seven deaths occurred at Hospitals in Birmingham, viz., 22 in the General Hospital, 6 in the Queen's Hospital, 7 in the Children's Hospital, 1 in a private hospital, and 1 in the Ear and Throat Hospital; 1 in West Bromwich Infectious Hospital, 1 in Birmingham Workhouse, 1 in a private house, and 1 in a cable car. The deaths of 2

non-residents were registered in this district. Both died in a nursing home. These are included in Tables I. and IV. Coroners' inquests were held in 25 cases, 17 cases within the district and 8 cases in Birmingham, *i.e.*, in 3·3 per cent. of the total number. The cause of death was not certified in 12 cases, *i.e.*, in 1·6 per cent. of the whole number.

The death-rate was 12·2. The death-rate was 10·9 in 1903. The average death-rate of the years 1891-1900 was 12·6.

The death-rate in 1904 in England and Wales was 16·2. In rural England and Wales it was 15·3. In the 76 large English towns it was 17·2, and for the 142 smaller towns it was 15·6.

In Table A the birth-rate and death-rate for 1904 are compared with those of preceding years.

TABLE A.

Years.	Population Yearly.	Births Yearly.	Birth-rate per 1,000 Yearly.	Deaths Yearly.	Death-rate per 1,000 Yearly.
10 Years 1871-80	18,722	611	32·7	280·5	15·2
10 Years 1881-90	27,610	175·4	28·2	359·5	13·2
10 Years 1891-1900	40,445	939·2	27·6	514·3	12·6
1901	53,000	1,403	26·4	724	13·7
1902	56,141	1,392	24·8	627	11·1
1903	59,000	1,451	24·6	642	10·9
1904	61,500	1,436	23·4	754	12·2

IV.—AGES AT DEATH.

Infantile Mortality.—The number of deaths at ages under one year was 192, giving a mortality per 1,000 births

registered during the year of 133. In 1903 it was 102. The average infantile mortality in the years 1891-1900 was 135. The corresponding figures for previous years are given in Table B.

The infantile death-rate in England and Wales in 1904 was 146. In rural England and Wales the infantile death-rate was 125. In the 76 large English towns it was 160. In the 142 smaller towns it was 154.

The deaths of infants occurred in the several wards as follows:—Birchfield 43, Heathfield 17, Murdock 63, Sandwell 50, Soho 19; 1 infant from Murdock Ward and 1 from Sandwell Ward died in Birmingham Hospitals.

TABLE B.

Years.	No. of Births Yearly.	Number of Deaths under one Year, Yearly.	Deaths per 1,000 Births Yearly.
10 Years 1871-80	611	73	119
10 Years 1881-90	775·4	94·1	120
10 Years 1891-1900	939·2	146·3	135
1901	1,403	183	129
1902	1,392	150	108
1903	1,451	148	102
1904	1,436	192	133

The infantile death-rates for the several wards may now be compared with the figures for 1896-1903.

					1904.	Average Yearly. 1896-1903.
Birchfield Ward	...	...	..	...	128	130
Heathfield	,,	...	...	...	111	123
Murdock	,,	...	...	...	181	163
Sandwell	,,	...	...	...	129	112
Soho	,,	...	...	...	89	117

Of the 194 infants who died, 49, almost exactly one-fourth, died within a fortnight after birth, and 95, or almost one-half, died before they were three months old.

At ages below five there were 258 deaths, or 34·2 per cent. of the total number of deaths, whilst at ages above 65 years there were 198 deaths, or 26·1 per cent. of the total number of deaths.

V.—THE CAUSES OF DEATH.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, ACCORDING TO THE CAUSES OF DEATH.—The 192 deaths were due to the following causes:—(1) *Diarrhœa*, including gastro-enteritis, 38 deaths. (2) *Diseases of Development*, premature birth, &c., 34. (3) *Debility, Atrophy, Inanition*, 11. (4) *Diseases of Respiratory System*, 21. (5) *Epidemic Diseases* (other than *Diarrhœa*), 14. (6) *Diseases of Nervous System*, 10. (7) *Tubercular Diseases*, 6. (8) *Diseases of Digestive System* (other than Enteritis), 3. (9) *Suffocated in bed*, 4. (10) Other causes, 51.

Of the 192 infants, 49 having died within fourteen days after birth, enquiry was not made as to feeding in cases where death was due to prematurity or some congenital defect. Of the remaining 143, the diet could not be ascertained in 4 cases, 32 were fed at the breast, 97 were brought up by bottle, and 10 were both breast-fed and hand-fed. Of the 38 children who died of diarrhœal diseases, only 5 were breast-bed.

On the important subject of the care and feeding of infants, a leaflet drawn up in simple language is given by the Registrar of the district to every person who registers the birth of a child. Copies of this leaflet may be obtained at the office of the Sanitary Inspector at the Council House.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES. — The seven chief Epidemic diseases caused 81 deaths, giving an Epidemic death-rate of 1·3.

The Epidemic death-rate in 1904 in England and Wales was 1·94, in rural England and Wales it was 1·28, in the 76 great towns it was 2·49, and for the 142 smaller towns it was 2·02.

The following table compares the number of deaths from each of the seven chief Epidemic diseases with the deaths of previous years :—

TABLE C.

Diseases.	1871-5.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Population	16,735	20,710	25,148	30,073	36,350	44,540	53,000	56,141	59,000	61,500
Smallpox	5.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlatina	9.0	12.0	8.2	3.0	3.6	4.4	8	8	13	5
Measles	1.0	2.4	6.2	5.6	6.2	9.6	12	10	8	3
Typhoid Fever	7.6	4.6	2.8	3.8	3.0	5.6	7	6	1	6
Diphtheria	3.8	3.0	2.6	4.6	3.6	8.4	9	8	4	14
Whooping Cough	3.8	5.6	8.2	10.2	9.4	1.2	12	16	4	22
Diarrhoea	10.4	12.8	13.0	13.4	14.0	39.2	35	4	20	31
Totals	40.6	41.4	44.0	40.6	40.2	79.2	83	52	50	81
Mortality per 1,000... ..	2.4	1.9	1.7	1.35	1.1	1.8	1.6	0.92	0.85	1.3
Per cent. of total deaths	15.2	13.8	12.5	11.07	8.0	13.8	11.4	8.3	7.7	10.7

In the following table the death-rate of each of the foregoing Epidemic diseases is compared with those of former years.

TABLE D.

Diseases.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-95.	1896-1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Smallpox	·29	·00	·11	·00	·14	·00	·00	·00	·00	·00
Scarlatina	·53	·57	·33	·09	·08	·10	·15	·14	·22	·08
Measles	·06	·11	·24	·18	·16	·21	·23	·18	·14	·05
Typhoid Fever	·45	·22	·11	·12	·08	·13	·13	·11	·02	·09
Diphtheria	·22	·14	·10	·15	·09	·19	·17	·14	·07	·23
Whooping Cough ..	·22	·27	·32	·33	·23	·27	·23	·28	·07	·36
Diarrhœa	·62	·66	·51	·44	·37	·88	·66	07	·34	·50

Again SMALLPOX does not appear as a cause of death.

SCARLATINA caused 5 deaths. Two of the deaths were those of cases notified in 1903. In 1903 there were 13 deaths.

MEASLES caused 3 deaths, all being due to pneumonia coming on in the course of the disease. Exposure to chill of children suffering from Measles is a common cause of death, yet there are people who do not seem to appreciate this well known experience. As with Measles so with WHOOPING COUGH, the same experience is noticeable; exposure to chill causing a fatal inflammation of the lungs. Whooping Cough, by its complications, caused 22 deaths.

There were 8 deaths from CONVULSIONS and 22 from MENINGITIS, including 1 at the age group 20-24, and 1 at the age group 55-64.

TYPHOID FEVER caused 6 deaths this year, as compared with 1 in 1903.

DIPHTHERIA caused 13 deaths, as compared with 4 in 1903. There was 1 death from Membranous Croup.

DIARRHŒA caused 31 deaths, 23 in infants under 1 year old, 4 aged 1-4 years, 1 in a person over 25 years old, and 3 in persons over 60 years old. To these should be added the 15 deaths from Enteritis, all occurring in infants under 1 year old, making a total under this head of 46.

Under the heading "Diarrhœa," including "Enteritis," "Gastro-enteritis," and "Entero-colitis," as being one and the same disease, the deaths for each year and the death-rates are given below :—

		1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897
Deaths	...	19	26	37	12	35	49	60
Death-rate	...	0·57	0·75	1·01	0·31	0·88	1·26	1·44
		1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Deaths	...	70	61	57	54	12	35	46
Death-rate	...	1·6	1·3	1·2	1·02	0·21	0·6	0·74

We see from these figures that from 1894 to 1898 the diarrrhœal mortality rose, and since that date the mortality has fallen gradually until in 1902 there is a sudden fall, almost certainly due to the low temperature of the summer and autumn. The wave is now again commencing to rise.

The causation and prevention of this "preventable" disease cannot be too strongly or too often brought before your notice, seeing that the mortality from Diarrhœa is by many considered to be a test of the health of a district.

One obvious reason why hot weather favours diarrrhœal diseases is that in hot weather putrefactive changes are then more likely to occur in our foods. Our

foods ought to be kept in the coolest place to be found in the house. In the great bulk of the houses in this district the food pantry is in the closest connection with the warmest room in the house, namely, the cooking kitchen. Without any great addition to the cost of building, a suitable pantry, which is a prime necessity, could surely be provided.

The first death from "Enteritis" occurred on January 29th, the second was on February 9th. The first deaths from "Diarrhœa" occurred on January 29th and 31st. From August 3rd to October 14th there were 32 deaths from these diseases. In April there were 3 deaths, in June 1 death, in July 2 deaths from diarrhœal disease, in August 23, in September 7, and in October 4.

In 1904 the average temperature was above the yearly average. As with previous years with high temperature the mortality rate from "Diarrhœa" increased.

The temperature of the soil at a depth of four feet from the surface rose to its maximum, 55·8 degs. Fahr., at the Edgbaston Observatory during July, 1904.

The 38 infants who died of diseases classed as "Diarrhœa" and "Epidemic Enteritis" were distributed over the several wards as follows:—Birchfield 12, Heathfield 1, Murdock 16, Sandwell 6, and Soho 3. The diarrhœal death-rates per 1,000 births are, therefore, as follows:—Birchfield 35·7, Heathfield 6·5, Murdock 46·0, Sandwell 15·5, and Soho 14·1. Thus a great part of the large infant mortality of the Birchfield and Murdock Wards is due to this class of diseases.

Influenza. This disease was registered as the primary cause of death in 10 cases, the complications being Pneumonia in 6 cases, Meningitis in 2 cases, Gastro Enteritis in 1 case, and Endocarditis in 1 case. The first death was

registered as occurring on January 26th, the last as occurring on December 4th, 1904. Influenza is an infectious disease characterized by great prostration, and a great tendency to acute diseases of the lungs, and the greatest care is required during convalescence. In no disease does recklessness pay a greater penalty.

Tubercular Diseases. Fifty-five deaths were due to this class of diseases, as compared with 73 in 1903, 69 in 1902, 81 in 1901, 56 in 1900, 61 in 1899, and 44 in 1898. The rate was 0·89 per 1,000.

We now know that (1) Tubercular diseases are due to the growth in the body of a minute organism, the Tubercle bacillus. (2) That it is present in the sputum expectorated by persons suffering from phthisis, and is present in the spray produced by their cough. (3) That persons coming much into contact with phthisical sufferers are very liable themselves to become phthisical. The bacillus may, perhaps, be conveyed into the body through the medium of cow's milk, or more rarely by the flesh of animals affected with the disease, or by the matter expectorated by animals suffering from consumption. These organisms retain their vitality even when dried, so that they may be wafted about in the air. Fresh air and sunlight soon kill them. In addition to the presence of the micro-organism another factor is required for infection, and that is a certain receptivity of the body. This state of the body is, in the main, brought about by insanitary conditions, and is prevented by living in an atmosphere supplied abundantly with pure fresh air and on an abundance of good wholesome food. To preserve the public health, therefore, our milk and meat supplies should be beyond the reproach of Tubercular infection, persons suffering from consumption should be cautioned against spitting in the street and in public vehicles, or, indeed, on any material which cannot be

burnt or otherwise disinfected, and insanitary conditions should be remedied.

Examination of the sputum for tubercle bacilli is made for medical practitioners of the district by the Birmingham University Bacteriological Laboratory. The necessary outfit may be had at the Handsworth Council House.

Cancer. Thirty-five deaths were due to Cancer and malignant diseases of various organs. The death-rate is 0·57, the average of the preceding ten years being 0·6.

Injuries. Nineteen deaths were due to violence. The death-rate was 0·3, which is the average of the preceding ten years.

The following tables give the comparative statistics of the health of the five wards during 1902 and 1904, and the six previous years.

Murdock Ward again has the highest birth-rate, death-rate, and infantile mortality, also the highest epidemic death-rate and death-rate from tubercular diseases. Whilst Heathfield Ward has the lowest general death-rate, epidemic death-rate and death-rate from tubercular diseases, whilst having the lowest birth-rate differing by a small fraction only from one-half that of Murdock Ward.

Birth-rates, death-rates, infantile mortality, and death-rates from certain groups of diseases in the various wards of Handsworth for each of the nine years 1896-1904.

BIRCHFIELD WARD.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	Average 6 years, 1896-1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Birth-rate	25·6	23·7	29·9	29·6	28·0	27·7	27·4	28·2	25·4	26·07
Death-rate	12·6	13·6	11·8	13·0	13·0	13·9	13·0	8·9	10·0	12·02
Infantile mortality ...	134	167	144	129	150	135	143	95	92	128
Death-rates from—										
All Epidemic diseases ...	1·8	2·2	1·5	2·4	2·6	1·7	2·0	0·7	1·13	1·8
Tuberculous diseases ...	1·1	1·1	0·7	1·4	0·9	0·8	1·0	1·1	1·13	0·77
Lung diseases	1·9	2·0	1·5	1·7	2·7	2·6	2·1	1·3	0·73	1·94
Heart diseases	1·2	1·4	0·8	0·8	1·1	1·6	1·1	0·9	0·81	1·01
Cancer	1·3	0·8	0·9	0·6	1·2	0·6	0·4	0·7	0·73	0·31
Injuries	0·4	0·2	0·2	0·5	0·6	0·5	0·3	0·2	0·24	0·46
All other causes ...	5·2	5·8	6·5	5·4	3·5	6·7	5·5	3·9	5·20	5·12

HEATHFIELD WARD.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	Average 6 years, 1896-1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Birth-rate	20·1	22·6	22·9	18·5	19·7	19·7	20·9	18·5	15·6	15·8
Death-rate	12·2	11·2	10·9	10·5	10·0	11·5	11·1	11·0	9·71	9·5
Infantile mortality ...	158	123	114	114	146	132	131	102	98	111
Death-rates from—										
All Epidemic diseases ..	2·2	2·5	0·7	2·0	1·1	1·2	1·6	0·6	0·82	0·61
Tuberculous diseases ...	1·3	1·0	0·6	0·9	0·7	1·4	0·9	0·7	0·92	0·41
Lung diseases	1·1	0·9	1·0	1·8	1·5	2·4	1·4	1·2	1·74	0·61
Heart diseases	0·6	1·6	1·5	1·1	1·1	1·0	1·1	2·2	0·51	1·23
Cancer	0·6	0·5	1·0	0·5	0·6	1·0	1·1	0·8	0·71	0·92
Injuries	0·4	0·2	0·1	0·1	0·2	0·1	0·2	0·1	0·31	0·31
All other causes ...	6·0	4·1	5·5	4·1	4·6	4·9	5·0	5·1	4·70	4·70

MURDOCK WARD.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	Average 6 years, 1896-1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Birth-rate	32·0	32·7	37·2	36·1	34·6	34·5	34·6	30·5	30·6	29·0
Death-rate	16·5	13·0	15·1	17·8	16·1	17·8	16·0	13·9	13·8	16·3
Infantile mortality ...	190	149	183	183	155	175	172	122	145	181
Death-rates from—										
All Epidemic diseases...	2·7	2·4	3·1	2·4	2·5	3·1	2·7	1·5	1·33	2·25
Tuberculous diseases ...	1·3	1·1	0·8	1·9	1·5	1·3	1·3	2·2	1·7	1·33
Lung diseases	3·1	2·6	2·8	2·6	3·3	2·2	2·6	2·0	2·2	2·91
Heart diseases	1·1	0·7	1·0	1·3	1·3	1·3	1·1	1·3	1·06	1·33
Cancer	0·4	0·3	0·7	0·7	0·2	0·7	0·5	0·4	0·78	0·58
Injuries	0·9	0·5	0·6	0·7	0·3	0·9	0·6	0·3	1·0	0·33
All other causes ...	7·1	5·4	6·4	8·1	7·0	7·7	7·0	6·0	5·76	5·75

SANDWELL WARD.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	Average 6 years, 1896-1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Birth-rate	29·7	25·7	30·7	26·4	28·9	27·7	27·7	26·1	30·5	25·2
Death-rate	11·8	10·9	4·1	12·7	11·8	11·9	12·2	10·9	11·03	11·58
Infantile mortality ...	100	108	144	153	106	101	119	104	84	129
Death-rates from—										
All Epidemic diseases...	2·3	1·4	2·6	2·2	2·0	1·5	1·9	1·2	0·86	1·82
Tuberculous diseases ...	1·0	1·5	1·2	1·0	1·2	1·0	1·1	1·3	1·14	0·91
Lung diseases	1·3	1·6	1·8	2·5	1·2	1·3	1·4	2·2	1·57	2·08
Heart diseases	0·9	1·0	0·7	1·3	1·0	0·9	0·9	0·5	1·14	1·43
Cancer	0·3	0·7	0·6	0·3	0·3	0·6	0·4	0·7	0·5	0·39
Injuries	1·0	0·2	0·5	0·3	0·1	0·4	0·6	0·1	0·3	0·26
All other causes ...	4·8	4·3	6·3	4·9	5·6	6·0	5·2	4·9	5·44	3·8

SOHO WARD.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	Average 6 years, 1896-1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Birth-rate	21·6	16·3	19·1	18·1	17·2	20·7	18·8	19·0	18·4	18·3
Death-rate	12·0	11·1	11·9	11·9	11·2	12·6	11·7	10·9	9·8	11·53
Infantile mortality ...	151	147	104	113	143	84	123	104	89	89
Death-rates from—										
All Epidemic diseases...	1·5	2·1	1·5	2·0	1·6	1·5	1·5	1·3	0·77	1·90
Tuberculous diseases ..	1·2	1·2	0·6	1·0	0·9	1·1	1·0	0·6	1·03	0·95
Lung diseases	0·8	1·5	2·1	0·9	1·3	2·1	1·5	2·1	1·1	1·21
Heart diseases	1·7	1·1	0·8	1·2	0·7	1·0	1·1	0·6	0·94	1·73
Cancer	0·7	0·8	0·6	0·7	0·7	0·9	0·7	0·6	0·34	0·78
Injuries	0·2	0·2	0·4	0·2	0·1	0·3	0·2	0·4	0·5	0·26
All other causes ...	5·5	3·9	5·9	5·7	5·6	5·4	5·2	5·1	5·0	4·25

MEASURES TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

MEASLES is not a notifiable disease in Handsworth. The School Attendance Officers, however, notify me of the existence of cases of Measles. It was found necessary to close one School to prevent the spread of Measles.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

In June, 1883, the Handsworth Local Board instituted a voluntary system of Notification of Infectious Disease whereby medical practitioners notifying a case of Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, or Smallpox, received a fee of half-a-crown for each case notified. This arrangement continued in force until the adoption of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, which came into force on the first day of March, 1890. The notifications received in the years 1883-1904 are given in Table E.

TABLE E.

Year	Voluntary.														Compulsory from March 1st, 1890.											
	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904				
	Population	25,020	26,379	27,300	28,000	28,800	29,500	30,300	31,000	33,100	34,650	36,500	38,000	39,500	40,600	41,600	43,500	47,000	50,000	53,000	56,141	59,000	61,500			
Smallpox	67	14	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	42	106	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Scarlatina	79	91	24	20	34	52	221	208	120	239	196	101	179	304	216	88	155	185	251	361	361	256				
Diphtheria	8	6	3	13	30	a few	9	50	19	20	15	19	28	98	46	29	50	50	59	55	43	55				
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	3	3	2	2	1	...	1	3	3	4
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid	11	6	8	19	15	4	12	20	21	5	10	19	27	25	25	31	48	36	28	24	20	19				
Continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	
Relapsing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	4	4	2	2	4	4	5	3	3	3	1
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	22	20	27	23	36	15	24	31	23	32	20	32	38
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chickenpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78	248	103
Totals	165	117	38	52	79	56	242	287	170	287	266	276	271	468	307	178	289	297	376	544	711	477				

In the following Table the cases notified in each quarter of the year 1904 are given :—

TABLE F.

	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Continued Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Chickenpox.	Total.
1st Quarter	...	45	13	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	11	75	147
2nd ,, ...	1	49	3	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	7	28	92
3rd ,, ...	..	46	18	1	...	7	...	...	...	...	5	...	77
4th ,, ...	...	116	21	...	...	8	...	...	1	...	15	...	161
Totals ...	1	256	55	4	...	19	...	...	1	...	38	103	477

Since the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act came into force, the number of cases notified of each disease per 1,000 of the population, that is to say, the attack-rates are given for each year in the following table :—

TABLE G.

Disease.	1890. 10 months.	Average 5 years 1891-5.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Smallpox ...	...	0·83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·02	0·01
Scarlatina ...	6·71	4·57	7·48	5·19	2·02	3·30	3·70	4·73	6·42	6·12	4·16
Diphtheria ...	1·61	0·53	2·41	1·13	0·67	1·06	1·00	1·11	0·98	0·73	0·89
Membranous } Croup	...	0·03	0·07	0·04	0·04	0·02	...	0·02	0·05	0·05	0·06
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid ,,	0·64	0·44	0·61	0·60	0·71	1·02	0·72	0·53	0·42	0·34	0·31
Continued ,,	...	...	...	0·02	...	...	...	0·04	...	...	...
Relapsing ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal ,,	0·03	0·05	0·05	0·04	0·09	0·09	0·06	0·06	0·05	0·05	0·01
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ..	0·26	0·54	0·89	0·36	0·88	0·66	0·46	0·60	0·35	0·54	0·62
Chickenpox ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·38	4·06	1·67
Totals ...	9·25	7·00	11·02	7·38	4·09	6·15	5·94	7·09	9·96	11·91	7·73

Three of the cases of SCARLATINA notified in 1904 died ; the fatality was therefore 1·1 per hundred cases.

The fatality in 1903 was 3·3 per cent. ; in 1902, 2·2 ; in 1901, 3·8 ; in 1899, 1·3 ; in 1898, 1·1 ; in 1897, 1·8 ; and in 1896, 0·6.

Of the cases of DIPHTHERIA and MEMBRANOUS CROUP notified in 1904, 14 died ; the fatality was 23·7 per cent. ; in 1903 it was 8·7 ; in 1902 it was 13·8 ; in 1901 it was 18 per cent. ; in 1898, 6·4 ; in 1897, 13 ; and in 1896, 24·6.

In 29 cases where the bacilli of Diphtheria were found there were 7 deaths, viz., in 15 cases where Loeffler's bacillus was found there were 5 deaths, in 14 cases in which Hoffmann's and Loeffler's bacillus was found there were 2 deaths; in 22 cases where no examination was made there were 6 deaths. In the remaining 4 cases no bacilli were found on examination, and no deaths occurred. There was 1 death from Membranous Croup.

TYPHOID FEVER had a fatality of 26·3 per cent. Five deaths occurring in the 19 notified cases. There was 1 fatal case in the General Hospital, Birmingham, which was not notified. In PUERPERAL FEVER there was 1 notified case, which proved fatal.

GENERAL PROCEDURE.—As soon as possible after notification of an infectious disease is obtained, the infected premises are visited and examined, and any sanitary defects are noted. An enquiry is made as to the population residing on the premises, their food supply, water supply, laundress, the schools attended, the means of isolation available, and the origin of the infection. These particulars are registered by the Medical Officer. After the patients have been removed to the Hospital, or have recovered at home, the infected rooms are disinfected with formaldehyde, and the infected bedding and clothes disinfected again at the disinfecting station. In the meantime notice has been given to the schools attended of the existence of infectious disease in the infected houses, so that children residing at these houses may be kept away from school until all danger of spreading disease is past. The attention of the owners of houses is called to any sanitary defect in the usual way. The premises are further visited from time to time as deemed necessary. During the past year 1,433 visits were thus paid, 494 notices were sent to schools, 318 houses, or parts of houses, were disinfected with formaldehyde by Lingner's

apparatus, and 85 houses, or parts of houses, were stripped or limewashed, 152 lots of bedding, &c., comprising 1,482 articles, were disinfected by the disinfection apparatus at Handsworth, and 139 articles destroyed. During the year all the disinfection has been done at your own disinfecting station at Queen's Head Road. The number of stovings was 130.

PROCEDURE IN SPECIAL CASES.

SMALLPOX.—Provision is made for the isolation of cases in the Smallpox Hospital of the West Bromwich Corporation. One case was notified in 1904.

VACCINATION.—The following returns are furnished by the Vaccination Officer, and relate to the whole parish of Handsworth for the years ending June 30th, 1894-1904 respectively :—

	Births Registered	Successfully Vaccinated	Insusceptible	Had Smallpox	Died Unvaccinated	Postponed	Removed to other District— traced	Removed— unknown	Defaulters	Re-vaccinated	Percentage of Defaulters to Births	Conscientious Objectors
1894	976	716	12	0	77	42	18	68	43	361	4·4	...
1895	1072	684	13	0	83	57	4	10	221	18	20·6	...
1896	1046	561	7	0	97	47	0	0	339	(?)	32·4	...
1897	1138	569	4	0	101	61	0	0	403	(?)	35·4	...
1898	1189	497	6	0	106	46	0	0	524	(?)	44·1	10
1899	1327	672	14	0	145	64	39	100	278	(?)	20·9	15
1900	1368	775	7	0	145	71	26	92	248	(?)	18·1	4
1901	1410	878	3	0	147	61	13	198	94	11	6·7	16
1902	1410	1032	4	0	147	71	22	112	12	552	0·9	10
1903	1532	1213	7	0	121	56	40	66	17	59	1·1	12
1904	1514	1215	4	0	145	49	20	64	4	68	0·3	13

The report for 1904 is again reassuring, showing as it does that an increasing number of persons are realising the necessity of vaccination for themselves and their children. The number of removals not traced shows a decrease in an undesirable floating population, which has the reputation of being a vehicle for the carriage of infectious disease, and is of unsettled habits.

As was surmised by all who knew the history of Smallpox in this district, Smallpox is still amongst us.

The measures to prevent its spread are vaccination in childhood and revaccination. Smallpox used to be specially fatal in childhood. Since vaccination in infancy has been the rule, the deaths have occurred mainly in older persons. Deaths from Smallpox in older persons occur mainly in persons who, if vaccinated at all, have been vaccinated only in infancy. Those who have been revaccinated, very rarely, if at all, die of Smallpox. Those who nurse Smallpox patients and come into contact with them do not suffer from Smallpox if properly vaccinated and revaccinated.

In the German Empire vaccination and revaccination are compulsory, and the adult male population has been vaccinated at three periods of life. In the German Empire Smallpox is practically unknown. If a case is imported into the country Smallpox does not spread.

One case was notified during the year. A nurse of 29, who had been visiting Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Darlaston, and Bescot from May 17th to June 12th, fell ill on the last-named date, and remained in Handsworth, though not confined to the house, until the onset of the disease on June 17th. A rash appeared on June 19th, when medical advice was sought, and the case was notified on June 20th as one of Smallpox. There was no history of contact with a previous case of Smallpox. She was

vaccinated successfully as an infant, and had not been vaccinated since. She was removed to the Hospital, and the remaining inmates of the house were revaccinated. The house and bedding were disinfected, and the family were kept isolated until it was certain that the vaccination was going to take in each case, *i.e.*, till the ninth day after vaccination. There was no spread of the disease.

SCARLATINA.—Provision is made for the isolation of these cases at the West Bromwich Infectious Hospital. Of the 256 cases notified 114 were isolated in the Hospital. The cases occurred in 193 houses.

In	1	instance	6	cases	occurred	in	1	house.
„	5	instances	4	„	„	„	„	„
„	8	„	3	„	„	„	„	„
„	27	„	2	„	„	„	„	„
„	152	„	1	„	„	„	„	„

One case was imported into the district while suffering from Scarlatina.

Eight cases had been playing with children who had been shortly before discharged from a Scarlet Fever Hospital. Two cases had each been visiting and nursing patients in 2 infected houses outside the district. Two cases had each been visiting at infected houses. In 2 cases the attack was said to have followed immediately after operations performed on patients at hospitals, and in 1 case the attack followed immediately after patient's arm was scalded.

The following figures are given to show some possible sources of infection at schools :—

In 14 cases children were in attendance at school on the day of the appearance of a Scarlatinal rash.

In 61 cases, 1 or more children attended school after a Scarlatinal rash had appeared in one of the family kept at home. In 16 cases 2 of the family attended school ; in 8 cases 3 attended school ; in 3 cases 4, and in 1 case 6. In 1 case 3 children were allowed to attend school for 12 days after the Scarlatinal rash appeared, and when the case was visited patient was "peeling" freely and had just returned from shopping.

No connection was found between any special sanitary defect, including milk supply, and the incidence or severity of Scarlatina.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.—No provision is made for the isolation of these cases. Cases are admitted into the General and the Children's Hospitals, Birmingham, when tracheotomy is indicated. One case was treated at the General Hospital and 1 at the Children's Hospital. The 59 cases occurred in 54 houses. One case was notified also as Scarlatina.

In 1 instance a house had 3 cases.

„ 3 instances „ 2 „

„ 50 „ „ 1 case.

Of the 54 houses, no complaint could be made of the condition of 30 ; in 1 fatal case the outdoor W.C. was badly ventilated by a short pipe close to house door and window ; in 2 cases (1 fatal) drains were defective and cellars damp and foul from the leaking sewage matter ; in 1 case there was a badly ventilated W.C. and soil pipe inside house and badly laid lip traps in yard ; in 4 cases the drains were blocked and premises covered with sewage matter, and complaints made of foul smells from the new inspection chambers ; 5 houses were "back to back" houses ; whilst in 5 cases complaints were made of bad smells apparently coming from street gullies ; in 1 house (kept in a filthy condition) the water supply was frequently

turned off for hours during the day; in 5 cases the premises were foul and the small garden at the back was covered with filth by large numbers of poultry being improperly kept. In some houses more than one of these defects were found. Of the cases no bacteriological examination was made in 22 cases; Loeffler's diphtheria bacillus was found in 15 cases; Hoffmann's and Loeffler's bacillus was found in 14 cases; and negative results were given in 4 cases. In 44 suspected, but not notified, cases examinations were made, with negative results. It was thought wise to close 1 school to prevent the spread of Diphtheria.

The following figures give the numbers of the first cases of Scarlatina and Diphtheria to occur in a house. If the infected member of the family be a scholar, he is styled a "case"; if he do not attend school the "house" is put down as one sending children to the particular school in question, public elementary and private schools within the district, and all schools outside the district.

		WITHIN THE DISTRICT.				OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT.		No. Schools
		Public Elementary Schools.		Private Schools.		All Schools.		
		Cases.	Houses.	Cases.	Houses.	Cases.	Houses.	Cases.
Scarlatina	... 1904	133	34	13	6	17	11	42
Diphtheria	... 1904	24	10	2	0	6	3	17

TYPHOID (ENTERIC) FEVER.—The 19 cases occurred in separate houses.

Two of the cases were treated at the General Hospital, Birmingham.

Widal's reaction is not reported as having been tried in any case.

One of the cases was imported from outside the district, coming home ill to be nursed. In 17 cases no sanitary defects were found on the premises.

One of the houses had an offensive privy-midden, the premises in 1 case were filthy from poultry being kept. In 2 cases complaints were made of foul smells from places where patients had worked, 1 complained of foul smells from sewer manhole opposite the house, and 1 of the foul privy-midden at school. One man complained of the smell from gas engine at the place where he worked.

Shell-fish were eaten shortly before the attack in 1 case.

When a case of typhoid fever occurs in a house having a privy-midden the midden is at once thoroughly cleaned out, and its floor and walls are dredged with strong Izal powder. At the same time an iron pail, with tight-fitting lid, is left at the house to receive the stools and urine. These are mixed with Izal peat, which is supplied with the pails. The pails are collected as required, and their contents burnt in the Destructor.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—No origin could be made out in the 1 case of puerperal fever.

ERYSIPELAS.—The 38 cases of Erysipelas occurred in 37 houses. No special sanitary defects were noticeable in the houses.

PLAGUE was added to the list of notifiable diseases by an order of the Local Government Board, dated the 19th of September, 1900.

CHICKENPOX.—On June 23rd, 1902, Chickenpox became a notifiable disease until June 1st, 1903; the notifiability was continued until July 1st, 1904, after which date it lapsed.

GENERAL SANITARY MATTERS.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.—The privy-middens and dry ash-pits are emptied and cleansed by the District Council.

Movable receptacles are being gradually substituted for the middens, when privy-middens are converted, and are also provided in all newly-built houses.

The sewers are in connection with the outfall sewers of the Birmingham Tame and Rea District Drainage Board.

WATER SUPPLY.—The district is supplied by the Birmingham Corporation Water Department. A few wells still exist.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTION.—During the year a house-to-house inspection has been made in the following roads and streets, viz.:—Westminster Road, Havelock Road, Willmore Road, Leslie Road, Howard Road, Wood Lane, Wellington Road, Wenlock Road, Tintern Road, Norris Road, Kenilworth Road, Hutton Road, Putney Road, Dartmouth Road, Turville Road, and Haughton Road.

This area embraces some of the smaller house property and most of the larger house property in Birchfield Ward.

In this way 1,199 houses were inspected, and many dangerous conditions were discovered and remedied. The following is a summary of the results of the inspection:—

Privies	45	Soil-pipes inside houses ...	3
Pail Closets... ..	5	Ventilators of Soil-pipe	
Ashpits, Dry	652	under three inches wide	12
Ashpits, Covered	661	Defective Traps and Drains	19
Ashpits, Uncovered ...	34	Ashbins	421
Ashpits over 20 square feet		Waste-water Flush Closets	4
in area	32	Lip-traps on Drains ...	87
Wet Ashpits	44	Bell-traps on Drains ...	14
Outdoor Water-closets ...	1,090	Houses supplied with Well-	
Indoor Water-closets ...	210	water	12
Pan Closets, with Con-		Number of Wells	7
tainers	—		

OTHER SANITARY WORK.

During the year, 7,722 inspections and observations were made for the discovery and abatement of nuisances within the district, 1,954 informal notices were sent out for the abatement of nuisances, and were in 1,897 cases followed by the abatement of the nuisances, leaving 57 on the books at the end of the year. This shows an increase in the year of 37 inspections, &c., 49 notices, and of 48 nuisances abated, as compared with the figures for 1903.

Final notices to the number of 214 were sent out.

No summonses were taken out during the year, the whole of the work being executed in a satisfactory manner without recourse to legal proceedings.

In 237 cases privies and middens were converted into water-closets and dry ashpits or receptacles, and 6 deep wet ashpits filled up after notice had been served on the owners, in addition to many which were converted without notice on the suggestion of Mr. Hodges; a decrease of 19 as compared with the year 1903.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—The 13 slaughter-houses in the district have been inspected on 127 occasions. In 7 cases notices were served to abate nuisances.

In 2 cases the drains were taken up and properly relaid; the floors in 3 cases were also re-paved, the bricks being set in cement, and offensive accumulations removed in 2 cases. No seizures of diseased meat were made.

BAKEHOUSES.—The 44 bakehouses registered in the district were inspected on 116 occasions, and in 11 cases notices to cleanse and limewash and to abate nuisances were served.

Two bakehouses are at present void, and 2 bakehouses have been rearranged and improved.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.—The premises of 22 registered cowkeepers have been inspected on 75 occasions, and in 8 cases notices to abate nuisances were served.

In 2 cases the sheds have been properly ventilated, paved, and drained, and the drains in 4 cases have been re-laid, properly trapped, and ventilated, and in 2 cases offensive accumulations were removed.

The premises of the 203 milkshops and dairies on the register were inspected on 232 occasions, and found in a satisfactory state.

During the year 4 cowsheds have been void.

WORKROOMS AND WORKSHOPS.—The 168 workrooms and workshops registered in the district were visited on 209 occasions. Notices to cleanse and limewash were served in 7 cases, and notices to abate nuisances were given in 14 cases. In 3 cases privies were converted into water-closets, and in 2 cases further closet accommodation was provided; in 7 cases drains were opened, repaired, and properly trapped; in 2 cases the ventilation was improved. There are 9 “domestic workshops” in the district, in which are carried on the following trades:—4 dressmakers, 3 laundries, 1 tailor, and 1 picture-frame maker.

SCAVENGING.—The Superintendent of the Cleansing Department reports that 2,219 applications for cleansing ashpits have been received, and that 39,999 dry ashpits and 2,956 privy-middens were emptied and cleansed during the year. 100,852 ashbins were also emptied.

Surveyor's Report respecting new buildings, &c.,

For the Year 1904.

During the year ending December 31st, 1904, 242 Plans were submitted, of which 106 were approved, representing 317 new buildings, 41 alterations and additions, 1 new Street, 1 Public Baths, 1 Baptist Church, and 1 Church Institute.

No action was taken in regard to 55 Plans.

The length of new Street (Oscott Road) is 770 yards.

The new buildings passed for occupation were :

572 Dwelling Houses.

1 New Offices (Lion Works).

1 Factory.

1 Hotel (Calthorpe Arms rebuilt),

as well as about 100 other additions, representing workshops, billiard rooms, bath rooms, etc.

Five houses are completed, but have not been notified. Fifty-two houses in Alexandra Road are standing incomplete.

During the previous year 348 plans were submitted, of which 179 were approved, representing 778 new buildings, 81 alterations and additions, and 1 new street.

The length of new Street, for which plans were approved, was 88 yards.

The number of houses passed for occupation was 747.

No prosecutions have been instituted during the year.

SUMMARY OF TABLES.

Showing mortality and rates at different ages, and from different classes of disease in 1904 compared with the average rates for the ten years 1894-1903.

	Totals.	Rate per 1,000.	
		1904.	1894-1903.
Deaths	754	12·2	12·35
Deaths under one year ...	194	...	...
Over one and under five ...	65	...	...
Over sixty-five	197	...	...
All Zymotic Diseases	106	1·56	1·72
Tubercular Diseases	55	0·89	1·1
Diseases of Lungs	115	1·87	1·75
Heart Diseases	83	1·35	1·02
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	35	0·57	0·64
Injuries	19	0·3	0·23
From all other causes	341	5·5	5·53

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK

*Done in the Inspector of Nuisances Department during the year 1904,
in the Urban District of Handsworth, Staffs.*

				Inspections and Observations made.	Preliminary Notices served.	Formal Notices by Authority.	Nuisances Abated after Notice.
Dwelling-houses and Schools	{	Foul Conditions ... ..	...	230	62	7	60
		Structural Defects ... ..	...	442	189	12	183
		Over-crowding ... ..	...	43	9	3	8
		Unfit for Habitation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
	Lodging-houses ... ..			...	...	...	...
	Dairies and Milkshops			232	3	...	3
	Cowsheds			75	8	...	8
	Bakehouses			116	11	...	11
	Slaughter-houses			127	7	...	7
	Canal Boats ... ..			...	...	...	...
House Drainage	{	Ashpits and Privies ... ..	...	1953	259	56	247
		Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	221	60	8	59
		Water-closets ... ..	...	957	399	36	389
		Defective Traps ... ..	...	987	271	31	259
	{	No Disconnection ... ..	...	150	32	4	31
		Other Faults ... ..	...	1584	498	31	491
		Water Supply ... ..	...	14	2	...	2
		Pigsties ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
	Animals improperly kept			278	77	17	75
	Offensive Trades... ..			...	...	...	...
	Smoke Nuisances			42	6	2	6
	Other Nuisances... ..			271	61	7	58
	Totals			7722	1954	214	1897

				Nos.
Seizures of Unwholesome Food				
Samples of Food taken for Analysis				
,, ,, found Adulterated				
,, of Water taken for Analysis				
,, ,, Condemned as Unfit for Use				
PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.				
Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed				291
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease ...				318
Schools ditto ditto ..				
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease				
Convictions ditto ditto				
Prosecution for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things				
Convictions ditto ditto				

*Signed, ALBERT HODGES, Assoc. San. Inst.,
Date, March 25th, 1905. Inspector of Nuisances.*

TABLE I.
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and Previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.						NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.				
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.			At all Ages.			9	10	11	12	13
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	6	7	8						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
1894.	38,000	947	24.8	195	100	396	10.0	..	..	13	409	10.7	
1895.	39,500	970	24.5	135	139	480	12.0	..	..	17	497	12.5	
1896.	40,600	1,053	25.9	153	145	519	12.8	..	..	27	546	13.4	
1897.	41,600	1,017	24.4	142	140	486	11.9	..	..	22	508	12.1	
1898.	43,500	1,231	28.3	181	147	535	12.3	..	..	46	581	13.2	
1899.	47,000	1,236	26.3	183	148	583	12.4	..	..	40	623	13.2	
1900.	50,000	1,275	25.5	179	140	586	11.7	..	..	46	632	12.6	
1901.	53,000	1,402	26.4	183	129	671	12.7	..	..	57	728	13.7	
1902.	56,141	1,392	24.8	150	108	563	10.2	..	..	63	626	11.1	
1903.	59,000	1,451	24.6	148	102	576	9.8	..	..	66	642	10.8	
Averages for years 1894-1903.	46,834	1,197	25.5	165	129	539	11.5	...	...	39	579	12.3	
1904.	61,500	1,436	23.4	192	133	670	10.9	...	...	84	754	12.2	

* Rates in columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

TABLE II.
Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1904 and previous years.

Year	BIRCHFIELD WARD				HEATHFIELD WARD				MURDOCK WARD				SANDWELL WARD				SOHO WARD				Deaths not distributed
	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year	
1896	7,817	202	101	27	7,777	158	96	25	6,885	286	148	55	7,637	229	91	23	8,155	178	99	23	8
1897	8,315	198	113	33	7,865	178	87	22	9,215	302	124	45	7,890	203	86	22	8,315	136	93	20	5
1898	9,270	277	113	40	8,019	184	84	21	9,588	358	152	66	8,098	249	112	36	8,525	163	101	17	19
1899	10,154	302	130	40	8,554	158	90	18	10,406	376	184	69	9,122	241	115	37	8,764	159	104	18	4
1900	10,480	293	136	44	9,034	178	91	26	10,994	380	177	58	10,145	263	120	28	9,347	161	105	23	3
1901	10,897	302	152	41	9,230	182	110	24	11,409	394	197	69	11,421	316	135	32	10,043	209	125	17	9
1902	11,555	326	103	31	9,506	176	105	18	11,514	352	161	45	12,809	336	141	35	10,667	202	116	21	...
1903	12,302	312	123	29	9,793	153	95	15	11,283	345	156	50	13,966	427	154	36	11,656	214	114	19	...
Averages of years, 1896 to 1903	10,099	276	121	36	8,722	171	95	21	10,162	349	162	57	10,136	283	119	31	9,434	177	107	20	7
1904	12,886	336	155	43	9,720	153	93	17	11,996	348	195	64	15,368	387	178	51	11,530	212	133	19	...

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1904.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.					NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.				
								Wards.					Wards.				
	At all Ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	Birchfield.	Heathfield.	Murdock.	Sandwell.	Soho.	Birchfield.	Heathfield.	Murdock.	Sandwell.	Soho.
Smallpox	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Cholera	55	1	9	29	7	9	..	17	3	6	17	12	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	4	..	3	1	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Membranous Croup	38	..	3	4	6	18	7	11	5	4	12	6	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	256	2	67	156	20	11	..	34	33	87	69	33	13	12	48	25	16
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Typhus Fever	19	..	1	1	6	11	..	2	5	3	5	4	..	..	..	..	..
Typhoid Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox	103	9	38	52	2	2	..	12	13	32	23	23	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	477	12	121	243	41	53	7	80	60	132	127	78	14	12	48	25	16

West Bromwich Borough Infectious Hospital 115 cases, by contract.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1904.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO LOCALITIES (AT ALL AGES).					Deaths in Public Insti- tutions in the District
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	WARDS.					
								Birch- field.	Heath- field.	Mur- dock.	Sand- well.	Soho.	
Smallpox ... ..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	5	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...
Whooping-cough	22	12	10	...	...	...	...	3	1	5	7	6	...
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup	14	1	2	11	...	...	...	1	...	1	7	5	..
Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Typhoid	6	...	...	1	2	3	...	1	1	...	2	2	...
{ Other con'd }	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	10	2	...	2	4	...	2	2	2	...	2	4	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	31	23	4	...	...	1	3	11	...	14	3	3	...
Enteritis	15	15	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	3	6	2	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Septic Diseases	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	22	...	1	...	5	16	...	4	1	5	4	8	...
Other Tubercular Di- seases	33	6	8	3	3	12	1	6	3	11	10	3	...
Cancer, Malignant Di- sease	35	...	...	...	...	23	12	4	9	7	6	9	...
Bronchitis	61	10	4	...	1	21	25	11	4	21	18	7	...
Pneumonia	51	20	11	1	1	13	5	14	2	14	14	7	...
Pleurisy	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	1	...	1	...
Other Diseases of Res- piratory Organs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver }	12	...	...	...	...	12	...	2	2	1	5	2	...
Venereal Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Premature Birth	34	34	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	18	7	2	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
Heart Diseases	83	1	...	5	6	31	40	13	12	16	22	20	...
Accidents	18	3	1	6	...	4	4	6	3	3	3	3	..
Suicides	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
All other causes	289	64	19	9	11	80	106	66	46	69	59	49	...
All causes	754	192	64	41	35	224	198	155	93	195	178	133	...